

COUNTRY

Rumania

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Troop Units and Military Installations in Arad

25X1

EVALUATION

25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

prior to mid-December 1951

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 10 December 1952

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1

- 25X1 1. [redacted] Soviet tank troops in the fortress area of Arad. The fortress area is divided into a northern and a southern section by a surfaced road. The quartering buildings were located in the northern section of the fortress. [redacted] 25X1
- 25X1 [redacted] four three-story buildings, which had been reconditioned by the fall of 1951. Eleven new two-story buildings and a number of single-story individual houses were observed north of the three-story quartering buildings. [redacted] the 11 new buildings 25X1
- 25X1 contained kitchens, supply rooms and dormitories and dayrooms. Three masts, probably belonging to a radio installation, were seen in the northwest corner of the fortress. Three newly constructed workshops with flat roofs and large doors were seen in the southern section of the fortress area. [redacted] 25X1
- 25X1 [redacted] these buildings were equipped with new Soviet machines in February 1951. Between the workshops and the main thoroughfare of the fortress there were large open sites. Four garages for motor vehicles and tanks which were also provided with flat roofs, were located between the workshops and the southern edge of the fortress area. Several parking lots for tanks and trucks were observed in this section of the area.
- 25X1 2. Iron doors, 50 meters apart, were observed in an earth wall, which was 10 meters wide and ran along the inner side of the wall surrounding the fortress area. [redacted] these doors led to old casemates which had also been reconditioned. Ammunition and ration supplies were allegedly stored in these casemates. West of the new workshop buildings, not far from the western gate of the fortress there was the two-story Soviet headquarters building. Farther to the south, there was a Soviet administrative building [redacted]
- 25X1 [redacted] electric current was supplied by generators. The fortress had its own water supply.

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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL [REDACTED]

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- 25X1 3. Convoys of up to 15 tanks were repeatedly seen near the fortress [REDACTED] 25X1  
 [REDACTED] on occasion of a parade in September or October 1951.  
 25X1 [REDACTED] about 30 Soviet tanks in the town. [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] a total of about 100 tanks were stationed at the fortress.  
 [REDACTED] T-34 and JS tanks. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] An estimated 150  
 motor vehicles were believed stationed in the fortress area. About 75 percent  
 of the motor vehicles appeared to be very old. No other vehicles or heavy  
 weapons were observed. No training activities were noticed in the fortress  
 area. However, tanks and trucks occupied by personnel daily left the town  
 for training fields near Aradul Nou. A Soviet general was repeatedly seen  
 25X1 [REDACTED] at the headquarters building. The officers wore dark-blue trousers  
 tucked into their boots and khaki-colored blouses with golden epaulets and  
 tank insignia. The MI wore black epaulets with tank insignia. Blue coveralls  
 were mostly worn in the quarters. Tank commanders wore leather helmets and  
 leather jackets.
4. In the late fall of 1951, construction and renovation work in the fortress  
 area was essentially completed. About 600 Rumanian workers had been employed  
 on this project. They were escorted in brigades to the fortress area. [REDACTED] 25X1  
 25X1 [REDACTED] the main entrance to the fortress was on the east side.
5. Prior to mid-December 1951, a Soviet residential area, which was off limits  
 to the Rumanian population, was located in the southern sector of Arad, between  
 the former Bulv. Carol to the east and the former Bulv. Maria, redesignated  
 Bulv. Republicii, to the west. A Soviet headquarters was observed in the  
 northeastern corner of this area. A radio mast was seen in the front garden of  
 the two-story brick building. The building was guarded by sentries wearing  
 tank insignia. A Soviet officers' club was located in a former hotel, on the  
 west side of Bulv. Republicii, south of the headquarters of the Rumanian  
 militia. Mostly tank officers and some air force officers were seen there.
6. Prior to December 1951, the former Kavallerie Kaserne in the northern sector  
 of the town, on the north side of the former Calea Aurel Vlaicu, near the  
 former Astra railroad car factory, was still heavily damaged. No Soviet  
 troops were seen there.<sup>2</sup> Temporary quartering buildings were observed  
 immediately north of the Kavallerie Kaserne. In December 1951, soldiers of a  
 Rumanian labor battalion worked on the construction of these buildings. Six  
 25X1 buildings were completed, three others were under construction. [REDACTED] 25X1  
 [REDACTED] the temporary quartering  
 buildings were to be occupied by this battalion. The training of Rumanian  
 militia soldiers was seen in the training area bordering on the construction  
 site.
7. The former Artillerie Kaserne on the west side of Calia Victoriei south of  
 the former Calea Aurel Vlaicu quartered units of a Rumanian labor battalion.  
 The war damages suffered by this old installation were repaired by 1949.<sup>3</sup>  
 The soldiers of this battalion wore brown uniforms without any insignia.  
 The soldiers of this unit were considered to be fit to bear arms. Elements  
 of this battalion were employed for the construction of temporary quartering  
 buildings near the former Kavallerie Kaserne, while other elements worked in  
 the railroad station area.
8. Prior to December 1951, a Rumanian ration supply and clothing depot consisting  
 of five large semi-permanent buildings was located immediately east of the  
 main railroad station, between this station and the road leading to Zimandul  
 25X1 Nou (R 16/U 17). Loading ramps and spur tracks were observed at this depot.  
 [REDACTED] prior to early 1950, one of the buildings was under Soviet  
 administration.

CONFIDENTIAL [REDACTED]

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CONFIDENTIAL [REDACTED]

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9. The Rumanian recruiting office for Arad and vicinity was at the intersection of Juma Pompiliu and Marasesti streets. Prior to December 1951, Rumanian military office was located in the former Gendarmerie Kaserne, in the southern sector of the town, on the north side of Andre Straguli street. Kaserierte Rumanian security troops were observed. [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED] Rumanian recruits were transferred to military posts

outside of Arad two or three days after induction. Only a few of them remained in Arad for service with the labor battalion. [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED] they had been politically screened in the former

25X1 Gendarmerie Kaserne. [REDACTED] members of the 1930, 1931 and 1932 classes were serving in 1951. The inductees were not allowed to volunteer for specific branches of service.

10. The headquarters of the Rumanian militia was on the west side of Bulv. Republicii, opposite the house used by the Rumanian civil administration. The passport office, the police registration office and a police station were located in this building. Chief of the headquarters was a Rumanian colonel of the militia. The headquarters of the Rumanian state security service was on the north side of the street which branched off from Bulv. Republicii to the northwest near the Party House. A radio installation and a prison were available on the premises of the building.

11. Prior to December 1951, no Rumanian army units were stationed in Arad except for the labor units mentioned. Details on the occupation of a barracks installation located in the northeastern sector of the town on the road to Zimandul Nou were unknown.

- 25X1 1. [REDACTED] Comment. The information on the occupation of the fortress by Soviet tank troops confirms previous reports. The observation in Arad of JS tanks is notable, because only a medium tank regiment of the tank divisions stationed in the Banat is carried there. However, as JS tanks were also observed with medium tank regiments in East Germany, the JS tanks observed in Arad may have belonged to the medium tank regiment. The observation of a Soviet general, however, would contradict this assumption inasmuch as it is improbable that an officer of this rank should be commander of a medium tank regiment. Therefore, the exact occupation of the fortress in Arad is undetermined. [REDACTED]

- 25X1 2. [REDACTED] Comment. According to a previous report, an undamaged three-story quartering building of the Kavallerie Kaserne housed a Soviet motorized artillery unit. [REDACTED]

- 25X1 3. [REDACTED] Comment. The data on the occupation of the Artillerie Kaserne is contradictory. According to information [REDACTED] the installation quartered Soviet units, whereas reports indicated an occupation with Rumanian soldiers. [REDACTED]

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CONFIDENTIAL [REDACTED]

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